



Richard D Cox

March 19, 1940 - April 15, 2014

Richard D. Cox

Written by Meladee Cox

Richard D. Cox passed away after a short, but severe illness at Utah Valley Regional Medical Center on April 15, 2014. His wife, Meladee, was able to be with him to the last moment of his life as he transitioned peacefully into Heavenly Father's presence during a priesthood blessing from their Bishop and was greeted by loved ones waiting for his return above, including his parents, David L. and Zola Cox, grandparents, step siblings and friends.

Richard and his wife Meladee Watts Cox were married August 9, 1980 and later sealed in the Mt. Timpanogas Temple July 6, 2001. He is also survived by his sisters Nadine Reynolds and Diane Hoover, his daughter Shellie Cox Lott (husband Dave Lott) and son Jason Cox (wife Lori Minson Cox) and six grandchildren: Wesley, Brandon, Lindsay, Scott, Rachel, Dmitri (wife Morgan) and one great grandchild, Aurora. Shellie and Jason were born through Richard's first marriage to Carolyn Hart Cox.

Richard was born March 19, 1940. He was raised in Provo, Utah and attended Provo schools before he enlisted in the army. He served in Virginia from 1960 – 1962. While in the army, he learned to be a construction draftsman and became proficient in it to the point that he became a drafting instructor. He also was in the army drill team and had learned to be a sharp shooter.

After Richard was honorably discharged from the army, he did construction drafting for Geneva Steel. Later he enjoyed various production, customer service and managerial jobs. He was always a very respected employee wherever he worked. He suffered many layoffs from his jobs, but each time would get right back out there looking for a new job, and was a good provider.

He was a wonderfully gifted fine artist. His mediums were oil, watercolor, charcoal, pastel

and clay. He collected guns and enjoyed making black powder guns from kits. He had a passion for model railroading and scale modeling and was good working with wood and other materials whether for home or art purposes. His attention to detail in all of his projects was incredible.

He took pride in his home. He often put in shelving or other household improvements. He enjoyed landscaping the yard.

Richard and Meladee enjoyed having a date night of going to supper each week when they had been able to and enjoying each other's company watching a video or DVD afterward. They also loved reading the Book of Mormon together every night. Richard's church callings included: High Priest group leader and counselor in the High Priest group, faithful home teacher, and he and Meladee were temple preparation class teachers for a couple of years, which was a joy to them.

He loved to spend time with his children, taking them on simple outings, to the store and taking them to a park to play. Some of Shellie's and Jason's favorite outings were watching him paint and sculpt, going fishing and shooting with their dad. It was a joy to see him with his son and daughter and their spouses and wonderful grandchildren! He simply enjoyed being with them.

We all love and cherish you in our hearts so dearly! We will miss you so very much, but we know we will be reunited again some day!

Love forever, your eternal sweetheart Meladee, Shellie & Dave, Jason & Lori and all the wonderful grandchildren: Wesley, Brandon, Lindsay, Dmitri and Morgan with little Aurora, Scott, Rachel.

Funeral Services for Richard will be held Monday, April 21st, at 11:00 am, at the Freedom 1st Ward Chapel, 888 South Freedom Boulevard, Provo, Utah, where a Visitation will be held prior to services from 10:00 am to 10:50 am. Interment in Provo City Cemetery, 610 South State Street, Provo, Utah.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

Sharing with you our last hours together here on earth until we are reunited forever, never more to part.

Written by Meladee Cox

My beloved husband, Richard D Cox passed away after a short, but very severe illness, in the Intensive Care Unit of Utah Valley Regional Medical Center April 15, 2014. I am so very grateful to have been there beside him, expressing my love for him and witnessing how brave he was as he struggled for several hours while the doctor and several devoted medical personnel tried everything possible to save him! I begged them to do all in their power to make him more comfortable and to give him pain medications through IV, but they could allow very little or his heart would stop. I had been telling him "I love you" over and over as I gently stroked his forehead and hair and held his hand, looking into his precious eyes amidst much thrashing about. He was conscious enough to know what I was saying, trying to soothe him and calling him "my hero," "my knight in God's armor," "my Angel-husband," "my brave one," and "my baby" and telling him everything was going to be all right, as I died inside for myself. He was able to look me deeply in my eyes at one point, in a conscious moment and tell me, "I love you." I so much wanted him to have a special priesthood blessing from some dear brothers in our ward family and our dear Bishop, and I had sent messages to them for their help this way. It had been around 2:00 am when we had arrived at the hospital by ambulance. He'd gone into cardiac arrest twice by early afternoon, at which time he was put on life support.

My angel sister Chris was able to come to the hospital at 9:00 am and support me with her presence throughout the day. All the medical personnel administered great care to him through this heart-wrenching and harrowing time of great sorrow and duress, seeing the effects of the infection infiltrating his entire body so very quickly. Though he did not look conscious at all by noon, I continued speaking consoling words of love, admiration and encouragement to him, while gently touching his face and brow and kissing his forehead, at times clutching the side bars of his hospital gurney with one hand, and laying my head on it, and rubbing his heart with my other hand thinking to myself, 'I can't live without him, my sweetheart!'

There were three times, though he was unable to speak, it looked like he was trying to open his eyes wanting to see me and respond to me. Since our Bishop hadn't arrived yet, the male nurse (who I thought was a doctor as he was so caring and had exerted himself so much in caring for Richard), suggested I have two elders on the hospital staff give him a blessing as he would not last much longer. I gladly agreed, and it was a comforting blessing. My dear mother had come to be with me by this time also. Just a few minutes later Bishop Howe and Br. Sparks arrived followed by Br. Mauzy who spoke comforting words. Br. Sparks anointed Richard and Bishop Howe pronounced a most wonderful, comforting blessing just before Richard's vital signs slowly came to a stop. In that beautiful

blessing, Bishop Howe blessed him and me with peace in this “transition.” Many other comforting things were said, and I felt the Spirit of the Lord so strong. I wept laying my head on Richard’s chest while clutching my own heart in sorrow as he transitioned to his Heavenly Father and Savior and all loved ones gone before, yet I felt such a divine soothing, all-encompassing peace envelope me at the same time.

I knew it was Heavenly Father’s divine timing, though I could never have imagined this happening, and it all seemed so unreal! I have known from many experiences, miracles and tender mercies of my Lord’s, that His timing is divine and perfect – far above our thoughts and our ways. In my Savior Jesus Christ I do place my trust, I commit my heart and soul to continued faith in Him in all things. I’ve learned that one day at a time, one step at a time, my Savior’s grace, love and goodness, His comfort and strengthening power is enough. I know my Savior’s eternal love for me and He knows mine for Him in my daily walk with Him, even if sometimes I feel weak in faith and that I’ve failed Him completely! I have felt His ever-sustaining, all encompassing love, the pure and perfect everlasting love our Lord has for each and all of us, so personally and completely!

I am certain that Richard heard the words “well done” from His Savior as he was clasped in welcoming joy. I am also certain that Richard is continuing to rejoice amidst loved ones in the heavenly spheres as he continues in eternal progress, rejoicing in all that Heavenly Father would have him do now. I know he will help watch over us, as do all beloved family and friends who have gone before us.

I have a sure testimony of all of these things, because I know my Savior, His love and goodness, His sustaining and healing power, His tender, sweet mercies, and even when I feel at my most down and distraught at times, He reaches down into the depths of my aching heart and soul, filling me with His perfect love and hope and strengthening power! He lifts up my head unto Him and soon has me smiling up at Him again, when things had seemed hopeless just moments before. I know that our Savior lives and that He knows us. He experienced first hand, through His atoning sacrifice for each and everyone of us, our every pain, sorrow, and suffering of every kind. I know that He comes rushing to our aid with blessings and outpourings of love as we need. He loved us first! All that our Savior wants and desires from each and every one of us is our love and devotion to Him! Heavenly Father and our Savior are so loving and committed to us and our eternal happiness! All we need do is continue looking unto them, taking one step at a time, ever forward one moment at a time, one day at a time, leaning upon our Lord who loves us with the everlasting love that shall raise us all up from the grave one day – having conquered all things so that we are never again separated from Him or our loved ones! I’m so grateful

to have the reminder of these things at this beautiful Easter Season in which we contemplate the gift and joy of our Savior's resurrection! What a wonderful, comforting joy it is for me to know that I will be called up through the power of Christ, by my husband to be by his side forever!

There's just one last thing the Spirit prompts me to share with you here. A month ago, weeks before Richard became ill with the infection that took his life, as I was thanking Heavenly Father for His blessings to Richard and me during my scripture reading and prayer time, the Holy Spirit brought Heavenly Father's voice very clearly to my mind and heart saying, "I will be sending extra angels to help you and Richard through the transition." Heavenly Father allows me to communicate very freely with Him, and He bestows upon me His love and comfort and addresses my concerns and needs very generously, but a pang of fear gripped my heart at His words just then, and I did not have the courage to ask what kind of "transition" he meant we'd be going through. So I just thanked Him that He would be sending us extra angels and expressed that I knew He gave us what we needed always in His wisdom and love, and I let the other part about the "transition" go unquestioned! It did cross my mind that it could mean that either one of us could be taken home to Him, leaving the other here for a time. Richard had always had fairly good health, so I thought it might be me that would be coming home. I thought it could also simply mean that some further trials here in mortality were coming for both of us that He would help us through with extra angels.

About a month later, while I saw my strong and brave husband's life ebb away, so quickly and so suddenly, I knew that the "transition" meant my sweetheart's passing from this mortal sphere to the heavenly realms. And when our dear Bishop Howe said the word "transition" during his blessing to Richard and me as it was taking place, I felt a most real and loving confirmation from Heavenly Father, that all of this was by His holy and divine appointment, no matter how heart-wrenching, devastating and utterly senseless it seemed to me then! It was part of our Savior's plan, and I know that my beloved husband was ready to be received into our Lord's loving arms!

I wish to thank Heavenly Father for helping me to know and understand that He is always there for me and for each one of us! And I thank Him for each and all of you, the special angels He spoke so clearly to my heart and mind about! I thank Him concerning these things that He set by divine appointment to happen, though it's so very hard to see it that way now! I (and Richard) thank each and every one of you for your love and kindnesses and comfort in word and deed that have been such a great blessing when extra angels have been so needed! You've all given so freely, what each of you were inspired to do by Heavenly Father who I know smiles upon you for all you are and have done! God bless

each of you in every way you need, I pray! I know with all my heart that Richard also is grateful to you for all you've given and done!

I miss you with all my heart and soul my Precious Dearest! It is so very hard letting go for now! I pray that I can always feel The Comforter's promise in my heart to help me every hour, each day, to go forward in faith until the veil separates us no more, and we are reunited eternally!

All my love forever, with my kisses sent to you, above,

Your Meladee

Cemetery

Events

Provo City Cemetery
610 South State Street
Provo, UT, 84606

**APR
21**

Visitation

10:00AM - 10:50AM

Freedom 1st Ward

888 South Freedom Boulevard, Provo, UT, US, 84601

**APR
21**

Funeral Service

11:00AM - 12:00PM

Freedom 1st Ward

888 South Freedom Boulevard, Provo, UT, US, 84601

Comments



“ Dear sweet Meladee,
Oh how I wished I could have know what you were going through. I would have come. I have often driven to Provo and thought of you and wondered how you were doing. Once I dropped by just to see if someone would answer the door. No response.

My heart goes out to you. I too, lost my husband in April just 2 years ago. I think our husbands are probably seeing each other and having a chat now and then. I am grateful you were strong enough to go to the hospital and funeral. Thanks so much for your sweet letter to let me know what had happened.

I would love to come and visit you and give you an extra hug. This loss is tremendous and you miss the scripture reading together, the dates, the kisses good night and just hearing their voice. But I am so grateful God loved you enough to warn you that something was coming. It shows you have done your part to get close to him. You definitely are loved by Him.

So take courage, one day at a time and continue to enjoy this beautiful journey we have on earth. This experience is for our good and it helps us really have an increased testimony that there is life after death, and God has prepared a place for us, and we will be together again. What a joy!!!

By the way, you are a beautiful writer. You should write books and life stories.

Love,

Carlene Curtis

Your Angel Friend

801-722-8171

Carlene Curtis - May 30, 2014 at 12:16 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Program



Utah Valley Mortuary - April 28, 2014 at 11:02 AM



“ Oh Meladee,
My heart aches with sadness. I remember your great joy when the two of you were to be sealed in the temple. I am comforted knowing that you will be together eternally. I'll never forget the way he looked at you with such love. My love and prayers are with you.



Paula Criman - April 20, 2014 at 07:02 PM



“ Dearest Melodee,
My heart and prayers are with you and your family at this time of great sorrow and loss. Richard was always so pleasant and kind. He was a great man and will be greatly missed!
I love you very much!
Love,
Melissa Pett

Melissa Pett - April 20, 2014 at 01:43 AM



“ Meladee,
It is with great sadness that we express our deepest sympathy to you in the passing of Richard. He and I shared many fun moments on our early home teaching routes. It was fun to me to watch him grow in the gospel. He bloomed into a well disciplined person who was willing and very able to fill any position in our church. I will always count him as a dear friend and will miss him as the years go on. I have faith that I will see him again and know he will be as witty and funny then as he was here. You are in our prayers and our thoughts and we have loved you both as a brother and sister, and dear friends.
Love
Ernie & Merlyn King

Ernest King - April 19, 2014 at 12:49 PM